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Journalism Mission In Our National Life.

Address Delivered By Reverend R. Davis Account The
First Anniversary of Sedalia Conservator—Here, There,
And Everywhere—White Woman On Race

The River Side Publishing Co. said that journalism may be defined as the art of getting up a newspaper, and by the word newspaper, a daily, or at the outside, a weekly publication of general circulation is implied. Reviews and magazines, whether dealing with the abstruse problem of political economy and social regeneration, or furnishing an assortment of serial and short stories, poems, and sketches, for the passing of an idle hour, have nothing in common with journals proper. So also with the so-called "Trades papers" and those devoted to scientific or other special subjects. They are not in the category anymore than a grocer's price current or a theater program.

A news is and must be first of all a means of conveying news to the public, and journalism is the trade of the men who prepare this news. From time to time we are favored with essays on schools of journalism, generally, the production of gentlemen whose ignorance of actual newspaper work is in direct proportion of their pronounced opinions regarding the necessity of an university for teaching the unteachable. For if it be true that the poet is born and not made, it is true also that journalist must be born with innate capacity for his work if ever he is to make any headway at it. His education can only be acquired in one school, the school of experience.

Farming, driving a gig, and writing editorials are accomplishments held to be within the power of every adult male not an inmate of a lunatic asylum; but writing editorials is not all there is to journalism.

The preparation, day by day, of a great newspaper requires the services of hundreds of men in many and varied capacities. Its mechanical make-up is a triumph of art, involving the use of intricate machinery and scientific processes; its business department must be as carefully guarded in every detail as the daily work of a bank or a merchant's office.

The business of the newspaper is to give the news; and the ideal newspaper is the one that gives the best and freshest news in the most readable shape, and with due regard to the relative importance of the respective items.

There is but one other "desideratum" of a newspaper, and that is, that it should give all the news.

To do this the journal must contain advertisements; these are news, the most constantly varied the freshest, the most interesting news of all for without newspaper advertisements trade would be impossible and newspapers would perish from the earth. By their means all can learn where best and cheapest to supply their wants, and by advertising all can make their wants known. It is the task of the journalist to furnish his readers with a paper which shall combine the double function of a narrator of the story of the world from day to day, and of an epitome of commercial information. To render his paper

an acceptable medium to the public who want to sell or buy, the journal must have an extensive circulation; to obtain this circulation he must provide the news-seeking public with the best and fullest information gathered from every corner of the earth. The gathering and publishing of news is an expensive process, but the advertising columns furnish the sinew of war. A first-class newspaper attracts first-class advertisements; the advertisements enable the publisher to create and maintain a first-class newspaper.

Thus, we see from what has been said that the mission of the journalist in our national life is an important one. He may be considered as the mold of public sentiment, for he, of all men, can get the ear and eye of more persons than any man in America. His mission and business is to discuss problems and interests that affects our national life financially, socially and religiously. In the political arena he reaches the men who could never be reached by those seeking posts of trust and honor were it not that he is a journalist. The journalist is to study human character so that he may be able to advise the reading public as to the worthiness or unworthiness of him, who seeks to be placed into positions of public trust of the republic. He should be able to go into impartial investigation of the merit or demerit of any who would seek the suffrage of the community, state or nation. The journalist, like the preacher, teacher, doctor, lawyer, should be a man of one work; his profession should engage his whole time and attention.

The journalist is not a one-sided character, for if he would be an instrument in the hands of providence in educating the people in the way they should be educated, he must be broad and fair-minded, fearful of nothing but the wrong, swayed by nothing but the true principles of justice. The true mission of the journalist is like, in kind, to that of the herald of the gospel of Christ; he is to get the news from every conceivable source and give it to the people, news gathered from all the passing events of the day that is worthy to be read by his subscribers.

Thus, Mr. Chairman, you see by what I have said what my convictions are of journalism in our national life. I do not forget that I am discussing this subject before men who are engaged in this important work, and I revere you for the good that you are doing in your journalistic profession. Your services may not be as highly appreciated as they ought to be at the present, but you be sure that nothing save the good of the people in lifting them to a higher plane be your aim, and the generations unborn will arise to call you blessed. Remember that harvest time always follow seed sowing. Seed thought is like seed corn; the germ first, then the blades, next the stalk, and by by, the full ear of corn. But the planting must precede all this. So in your work keep at it, continue at it, always at it, and the rising sun of a better day will at last shine on your pathway and you will have your place in the galaxy of other great journalists.

Here, There, And Everywhere.

To hatch chickens from boiled eggs with a wooden hen see me Phillips.

Mrs. Lizzie Harper departed for her home, Montgomery last Wednesday.

The Moorehead brothers of Lexington, Mo. visited their sister at Kansas City last week.

Mr. Thos. Young and wife of near Lexington were visitors at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Warrens recently.

The closing exercises of Miss Parker's school at Lexington, Mo. was well attended and the people of that vicinity were well pleased with her work.

Miss Martha Fowler, our Malta Bend, correspondent writes good news for that locality. She was a recent visitor at the Paxton home in this city.

The Board of Education of Tipton, Mo. have elected Prof. A. H. Gravett, principal of their (col) school for the ensuing school year. Prof. Gravett taught at Georgetown last.

Mr. F. B. Turk and wife who formerly lived here but recently at Kansas City have moved to Denver Col. They are at present stopping with Mrs. Beatty of 2443 Gilpin ave.

Prof. Shelton French, who has been attending the General Conference of the A. M. E. church, at Chicago, returned Sunday and resumed his work at Lincoln School Monday.

G. W. Thomas, the banker, was in a peck of trouble Saturday. We all sympathize with George and though unable to ascertain his trouble, it appears that he sat on something hot or otherwise.

Rev. G. W. Reeves writes from Glasgow that the Rev. J. Will Jackson D. D. was with him on the 8th, and preached three polished sermons. The quarterly collection amounting to \$46.87 was taken. Good for Glasgow and brother Reeves.

Rev. H. Green, of Marshall, Mo. former teacher of the editor of this paper, was a visitor at our office last Thursday. We were pleased to meet him in our own sanctuary. He was called to this city to preach the funeral of the late Rev. Harrison White.

A reception banquet was given Thursday evening, May 12, by the Roosevelt negro Republican club at Douglass Hall, Lawton avenue and Beantown street, St. Louis, Mo., to Jno. C. Dancy; recorder of deeds in the District of Columbia. He delivered the address before the club.

Prof. F. R. Perkins closed the Malta Bend school with an excellent exercise at the conclusion of which Miss Pleadie Fowler was granted a diploma for excellence in elocution and deportment. Prof. Perkins' work has been so gratifying that he was re-elected for the next session.

The North street M. E. church of Marshall, Mo. informs us thru a correspondent that the work is moving along nicely. The pastor Rev. A. H. Higgs is pushing



men in town are wearing our clothing.

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ing things to the front. On the 15th, P. E. W. H. Smith visited the charge and did yeoman service for his cause and the general good for the church. During the quarterly meeting service, 6 accessions were made to the church.

Rev. J. S. Dorsey, of Springfield, Mo. passed thru our city last Thursday from Macon, Mo. in route to Warrensburg to visit a sister. Rev. Dorsey was fresh from attending the commencement of the Western Baptist college and reports everything to be in prosperous condition. Plans were perfected at the recent meeting of the board of trustees, of which he is a member to erect a new building at a cost of \$21,000. This with the present accommodations will make this institution a representative school of the higher education of the Baptist youth in this state. Pres. E. L. Scruggs, was unanimously re-elected president.

Miss Fannie Counce, departed for her home, Coffeyville, Kas., after a nine month stay in our city. Miss Counce is an exceptional young lady and thorough going. Her stay here has been a very pleasant one, and she has made legion of friends in the highest circle of society. Miss Counce was employed in the Conservator office, unlike the usual woman; she worked to please and not for salary. Every one who was fortunate to get her acquaintance, speak of her in the most endearing terms. We hope to have her with us again soon.

Rev. E. D. Burns closed a successful eight months' term of the Blackburn colored school with a two night exhibition last Thursday and Friday nights. A large crowd was pleasantly entertained at both meetings and all expressed themselves as highly pleased with Mr. Burn's work. He says the people of Blackburn are thorough believers in education, regardless of race or color. W. H. Huston editor of the Sedalia Conservator, Friday night gave a very instructive talk on the needs of the race, emphasizing the necessity of harmony between parents and teachers and the importance of the race being educated. Rev. Burns preaches at Sedalia, Blackburn and Gilman but will make Marshall his home the next few months. He is one of the hardest workers in the

intellectual and spiritual fields and his labors are well received. —Marshall Republican.

Res. Findly, of Hughesville and James Wilson, of Sweetsprings were Sunday visitors.

John Lewis of Blackwater, Mo. came over Monday on the Katy to visit J. H. Herndon and wife of W. Johnson at

Miss Minnie Lewis has returned to her home at Hughesville, from Jefferson City where she has been attending Lincoln Institute.

Plans, to affect a combining of all the methodists denomination in the united states were presented to the A. M. E. Zion General conference at St. Louis.

Editor W. H. Huston and Misses Laberta Smith and V. Jackson went to Dresden Friday to be present at the closing exercises of the public school at that place conducted by Miss Effie V. West.

It is reported that during a session of the A. M. E. General Conference at Chicago, A. bishop read a report of his expenses was \$5000 which brought hisses and jeers from all the house.

It is persistently rumored that the World's Fair officials are turning the negroes down; now is it not a fact that the faction of negroes who are looking for boodle and trying to make politics are the ones that are turned down and doing the yelping?

Money to loan; no commission; H. G. Phillips.

Elwang's Book.

Editor Logan, of the Professional World, has secured the book written by a Rev. Elwang, on the negro problem, and submitted it to the faculty of the M. S. U. Editor Logan treats the book with contempt as it righteously deserves. Altho, had the editor never penned a line against it reasonable men, black or white, quickly located the reverend to be a southerner from the most biased, prejudiced and negro hating section, who being, both by nature and cultivation, crooked will never be able to see things as they are. So, brother editor, do not try to convince him of his errors but, know yourself what is what and, then, continue to improve your race, as you have been here-to-fore.

"Short Comin'."

"Only one Chicago newspaper told us of the big row in the white Methodist Conference, at Los Angeles, Cal. the other day, and that was done in a few sympathetic words, while all the Chicago dailies rush to the public under greet head lines with every little debate entered into in the Negro conferences and try to impress their readers that the Negroes in a meeting, are worse than white folks". —Chicago Conservator. One Exchange, colored, came to us this week with its whole front devoted to the, "Extremely boisterous deliberations of the A. M. E. church". And, another came shedding tears, because some hostilities, at Los Angeles drew the color line—a universal occurrence. Journals that, herald to the world all the bad things done by the race or, every injustice inflicted upon it, serve only to create a greater prejudice between both races.

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X-ray Soap 6 bars for 25c

Sayman's Soap 3 bars 25c
Hair Pomade a bottle 5c
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